



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.6920 | FAX (517) 373.2751

[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/kuipers/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/kuipers/)

For Immediate Release  
November 9, 2005

Contact: Darin Ackerman  
517-373-6920

## **Senate restores funding to Grand Haven State Police post**

**LANSING** – The Senate today restored state funding to the Michigan State Police post in Grand Haven and other public-safety programs, announced Sen. Wayne Kuipers, R-Holland.

“It has been a tough road to travel to keep the Grand Haven post open, but today we’ve done that,” Kuipers said. “Since the governor proposed closing it, I have worked to keep the post open and make public safety our priority.”

The legislation passed today also restores funding to the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and the Fire Investigation Unit, while ensuring other posts in Oakland Township and Iron River remain open. Funding for the posts wasn’t included in the main state police budget approved recently by the Legislature.

The \$1.9 million MCOLES cut recommended by the governor would have jeopardized critical training funds granted to local police departments. With MCOLES grants, police officers take part in state of the art in-service training that keeps them current on security issues, including homeland-security matters.

Members of the Michigan State Police Fire Investigation Unit provide assistance to local governments investigating suspicious fires as well as expert witness testimony in arson trials. Because most local units of government do not have their own arson investigation expert, the governor’s recommendation to entirely eliminate the program could have resulted in many of the state’s suspicious fires going uninvestigated.

“Grand Haven-area residents demand a state police presence on area roads and we’ve ensured that happens,” Kuipers said.

####